

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. A method of producing a liner, said method comprising:
forming a fiber web in a forming section having at least two forming units, the
fiber web comprising at least a top layer and a base layer; and
conveying the fiber web from the forming section through a press section and to a
drying section, the press section comprising a plurality of rolls, with at
least two of the rolls being adjacently disposed so as to form a last nip
therebetween, and a transfer belt having a smooth surface, the transfer belt
being configured to be conveyed through the last nip with the top layer of
the fiber web engaging the smooth surface.
2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein conveying the fiber web through
a press section further comprises conveying the fiber web through a press section having
the last nip configured to exert a linear load of between about 600 kN/m and about 2000
kN/m on the fiber web.
3. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the press section comprises at
least three nips arranged in the machine direction such that the last nip immediately
20 precedes the drying section and conveying the fiber web through a press section further
comprises conveying the fiber web through a next-to-last nip, immediately preceding the
last nip, configured to exert a linear load of between about 30 kN/m and about 150 kN/m
on the fiber web.
- 25 4. A method according to Claim 3 wherein conveying the fiber web through
a press section further comprises conveying the fiber web through a leading nip,
immediately preceding the next-to-last nip, comprising a shoe press configured to exert a
linear load of between about 200 kN/m and about 1000 kN/m on the fiber web.

5. A method according to Claim 3 wherein conveying the fiber web through a press section further comprises conveying the fiber web through a leading nip, immediately preceding the next-to-last nip, comprising a press configured to exert a linear load of between about 50 kN/m and about 200 kN/m on the fiber web.

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6. A method according to Claim 1 wherein conveying the fiber web through a press section further comprises conveying the fiber web through a press section at a rate of between about 750 m/min and about 2000 m/min.

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7. A method according to Claim 6 wherein conveying the fiber web through a press section further comprises conveying the fiber web through a press section at a rate of between about 1000 m/min and about 2000 m/min.

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8. A method according to Claim 7 wherein conveying the fiber web through a press section further comprises conveying the fiber web through a press section at a rate of between about 1200 m/min and about 2000 m/min.

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9. A method according to Claim 1 further comprising conveying the fiber web through the drying section, the drying section being configured to produce a liner having a grammage of between about 60 g/m² and about 205 g/m².

10. A method according to Claim 9 further comprising conveying the fiber web through the drying section, the drying section being configured to produce a liner having a grammage of between about 60 g/m² and about 150 g/m².

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11. A method according to Claim 1 wherein forming a fiber web further comprises forming the base layer of unbleached and substantially long-fibered pulp comprising at least one of fir tree fiber and pine tree fiber.

12. A method according to Claim 1 wherein forming a fiber web further comprises forming the top layer of bleached and at least partially short-fibered pulp comprising at least one of birch tree fiber and eucalyptus tree fiber.

5 13. A method according to Claim 1 wherein forming a fiber web further comprises forming a fiber web having the top layer comprising bleached pulp.

10 14. A method according to Claim 1 wherein forming a fiber web further comprises forming a fiber web having the top layer comprising at least 30 weight-% of short fiber.

15 15. A method according to Claim 1 wherein forming a fiber web further comprises forming a fiber web having the top layer comprising at least 50 weight-% of short fiber.

16. A method according to Claim 1 wherein forming a fiber web further comprises forming a fiber web comprising the top layer adjacent to the base layer.

20 17. A method according to Claim 1 wherein conveying the fiber web further comprises conveying the fiber web through the last nip with the top layer of the fiber web engaging the smooth surface of an impermeable transfer belt.

25 18. A papermaking device for producing a liner, said device comprising:
a forming section having at least two forming units for forming a fiber web
having at least a top layer and a base layer; and
a press section for receiving the fiber web from the forming section and
conveying the fiber web to a drying section, the press section comprising:
a plurality of rolls having at least two of the rolls being adjacently
disposed so as to form a last nip therebetween; and

a transfer belt having a smooth surface, the transfer belt being configured
to be conveyed through the last nip with the top layer of the fiber
web engaging the smooth surface.

5 19. A papermaking device according to Claim 18 wherein the last nip
comprises a shoe press having a shoe press roll disposed adjacent to a press roll and the
transfer belt is configured to pass about the press roll such that the smooth surface is
directed away therefrom.

10 20. A papermaking device according to Claim 18 wherein the press section
further comprises at least three nips arranged in the machine direction such that the last
nip immediately precedes the drying section and a next-to-last nip, immediately
preceding the last nip, comprises a press.

15 21. A papermaking device according to Claim 18 wherein the press section
further comprises four rolls disposed adjacently so as to form three nips.

20 22. A papermaking device according to Claim 18 wherein the press section
further comprises five rolls disposed adjacently so as to form three nips arranged in the
machine direction such that a leading nip precedes a next-to-last nip which, in turn,
precedes the last nip immediately preceding the drying section and the leading nip further
comprises a shoe press.

25 23. A papermaking device according to Claim 18 wherein the transfer belt is
configured to be impermeable.

30 24. A method of producing a liner, said method comprising:
forming a fiber web in a forming section having at least two forming units, the
fiber web comprising at least a bleached pulp layer and an unbleached
pulp layer; and

conveying the fiber web from the forming section through a press section and to a drying section, the press section comprising a plurality of rolls, with at least two of the rolls being adjacently disposed so as to form a last nip therebetween, and a transfer belt having a smooth surface, the transfer belt being configured to be conveyed through the last nip with the bleached pulp layer of the fiber web engaging the smooth surface.

25. A method according to Claim 24 wherein conveying the fiber web further comprises conveying the fiber web through the last nip with the bleached pulp layer of
10 the fiber web engaging the smooth surface of an impermeable transfer belt.

26. A method of producing a liner, said method comprising:
forming a fiber web in a forming section having at least two forming units, the fiber web comprising at least a bleached pulp layer having at least 30 weight-% of short fiber and an unbleached layer having substantially all long fiber; and
conveying the fiber web from the forming section through a press section and to a drying section, the press section comprising a plurality of rolls, with at least two of the rolls being adjacently disposed so as to form a last nip therebetween, and a transfer belt having a smooth surface, the transfer belt being configured to be conveyed through the last nip with the bleached pulp layer of the fiber web engaging the smooth surface.

27. A method according to Claim 26 wherein conveying the fiber web further
25 comprises conveying the fiber web through the last nip with the bleached pulp layer of the fiber web engaging the smooth surface of an impermeable transfer belt.